

Irish species project

8 rare/local species surveyed during 2014 and 2015

Moonwort

Botrychium lunaria

Cyperus Sedge

Carex pseudocyperus

Autumn Gentian

Gentianella amarella

Toothwort

Lathraea squamaria

Grass-of-Parnassus

Parnassia palustris

Cowslip

Primula veris

Common Wintergreen

Pyrola minor

Cranberry

Vaccinium oxycoccos

B5BI 'Irish Species Project' recording form



Target species:

Site name	VC	NB circle site type: Pre-selected	Day	Month	Year
Recorder(s)		Substitute	Aspect	Alt (m)	Slope
		Extra			

Grid reference(s) (Multiple grid refs are important if population extends across monad boundaries, and also to show extent of population)	Sketch map (Show approx. position of population in relation to permanent features, & indicate north)																																																																																
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Population size 0 (null) <input type="checkbox"/> 1-10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11-100 <input type="checkbox"/> 101-300 <input type="checkbox"/> 301-500 <input type="checkbox"/> 501-1000 <input type="checkbox"/> 1001-3000 <input type="checkbox"/> 3001-10000 <input type="checkbox"/> >10000 <input type="checkbox"/> Actual number if counted <input type="text"/>	Unit counted Seedlings <input type="checkbox"/> Rosebuds <input type="checkbox"/> Clumps/patches <input type="checkbox"/> Flowering/fruitle spikes <input type="checkbox"/> Combination of above <input type="checkbox"/>	Description of density (e.g. a few plants widely scattered) <input type="text"/>
	Regeneration Seedlings <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetative <input type="checkbox"/> Flowering <input type="checkbox"/> Fruiting <input type="checkbox"/>	Extent (e.g. 50 x 100 m) <input type="text"/>

Management (Give brief details of management, and whether you feel it is appropriate) <input type="text"/>	Threats (or reason for null record) Afforestation <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Burning <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of management/undergrazing <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive species <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral extraction <input type="checkbox"/> Overgrazing <input type="checkbox"/> Pollution / eutrophication <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> Species transient <input type="checkbox"/> Urban/road or other development <input type="checkbox"/> (Please give details in comments section at end) Other (please specify): <input type="text"/>																									
<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>High</td> <td>Mod</td> <td>Low</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grazing</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shading</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disturbance</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sward height (cm)</td> <td>< 10</td> <td>11-30</td> <td>31-100</td> <td>> 100</td> </tr> </table>		High	Mod	Low	None	Grazing					Shading					Disturbance					Sward height (cm)	< 10	11-30	31-100	> 100	
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Example of recording form used

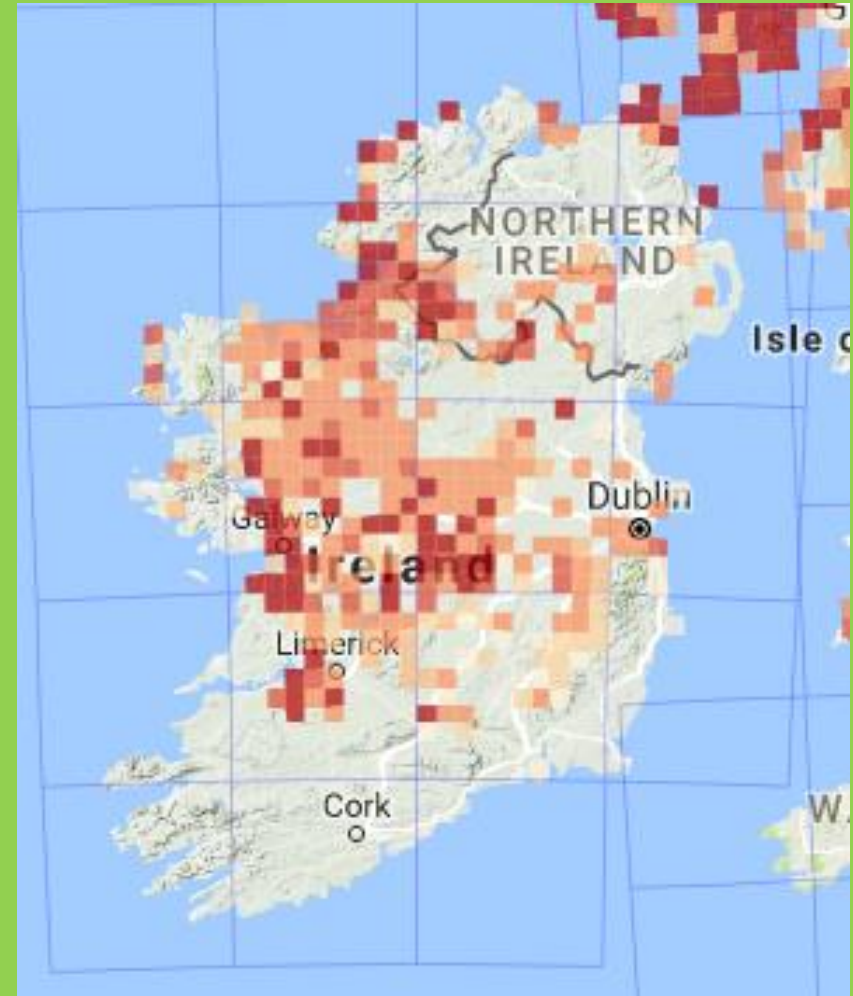
236 record cards compiled by 64 recorders

Table 1. Overview of card returns by species.

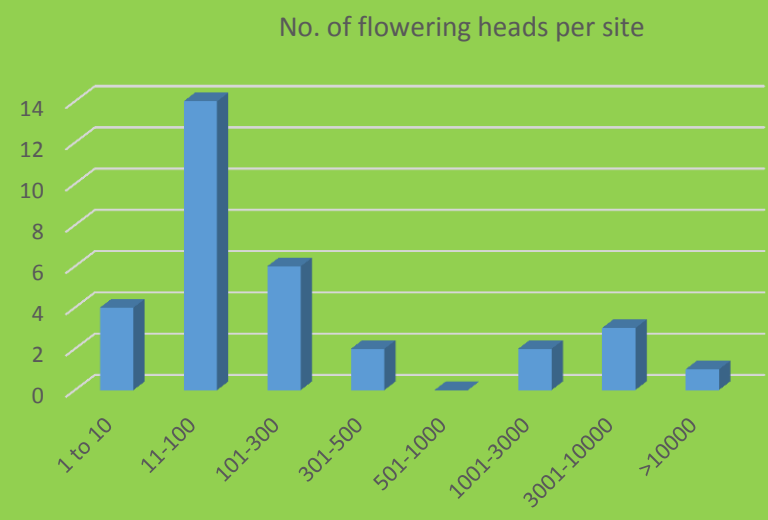
Species name	No. pre-selected sites	No. pre-selected sites surveyed	(% of pre-selected surveyed)	No. extra sites surveyed	Total no. sites surveyed
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	38	9	24	9	18
<i>Carex pseudocyperus</i>	47	14	30	10	24
<i>Gentianella amarella</i>	51	7	14	10	17
<i>Lathraea squamaria</i>	50	18	36	33	51
<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	51	12	24	22	34
<i>Primula veris</i>	50	14	28	25	39
<i>Pyrola minor</i>	20	8	40	4	12
<i>Vaccinium oxycoccus</i>	50	16	32	25	41
	357	98	27	138	236

Low number of pre-selected sites surveyed due in part to poor location details, e.g. 10k square resolution only.

Parnassia palustris – Grass of Parnassus



- 12 preselected sites surveyed. Species refound in 9, not refound in 3. 1 site drained for forestry, 2 sites appear to be subject to scrub encroachment.
- Habitats - Fens, flushes, lake margins, dune slack, damp calcareous grassland. Mainly limestone geology.
- Population size - Majority of sites have a small population size (11 to 100 flowering heads).



- Species associated with a short sward of <15cm. Usually in species-rich vegetation. Purple moor grass, Devil's bit scabious and Quaking grass the most common associated species.

2		
3		% presence in quadrats
4	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	100
5	<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	65
6	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	60
7	<i>Briza media</i>	50
8	<i>Carex flacca</i>	45
9	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	40
10	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	40
11	<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	35
12	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	35
13	<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	35
14	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	35
15	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	35

- Land use – c. 75% of sites grazed by livestock. Little evidence of drainage damage in surveyed sites.
- Further species accounts in 2017 edition of Irish Botanical News.